

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims, without prejudice, as indicated below:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method for facilitating the detection of nail surfaces utilizing a coating composition, comprising:

preparation of the nail surface by cleaning and treating;  
~~and~~ application of the coating composition to the nail surface area or the surrounding tissue; and  
digitizing the nail surface area.

Claim 2 (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of preparation of the nail surface by cleaning and treating further comprises an inspection of each nail surface to determine the correct procedure to finalize preparation of the nail surface for the ~~detection-facilitating~~ coating composition.

Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the inspection further comprises:

a visual inspection of the nail surface;

and/or a computerized inspection of the nail surface by digitizing the nail surface.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said step of determining the correct procedure to finalize preparation of the nail surface further comprises:

- a manicure for fingernail surfaces; or
- a pedicure for toenail surfaces.

~~However if the inspection method determines that the nail surface area is correctly prepared for the coating composition, this step may be omitted.~~

Claim 5 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of application of the coating composition to the nail surface area or the surrounding tissue may occur continuously or discontinuously and further comprises:

application of the coating composition by brushing the coating composition on the nail surface area or the surrounding tissue;

and/or application of the coating composition by spraying the coating composition on the nail surface area or the surrounding tissue;

and/or application of the coating composition by air brushing the coating composition on the nail surface area or the surrounding tissue;

and/or application of the coating composition by dipping the nail surface area into the coating composition;

and/or application of the coating composition by mechanical application of the coating composition on the nail surface area or the surrounding tissue;

and/or application of the coating composition by use of cutouts;

and/or application of the coating composition by the use of stencils.

Claim 6(original) The method of claim 1, wherein the said step of application of the coating composition further comprises:

application of the coating composition being done uniformly and evenly to cover the exposed nail surface area or the surrounding tissue; and

application of the coating composition is done to a thickness not to exceed five (5) millimeters.

Claim 7(original) The method of claim 1, wherein the coating composition further comprises:

any type of non-transparent, impenetrable, obscured or opaque substance, covering, veneer, layer, stain, dye, tincture, coating or paint of any color;

and/or any type of matte, lusterless, dull or non-shiny substance, covering, veneer, layer, stain, dye, tincture, coating or paint of any color;

and/or any type of glossy, shiny or luminescence covering, veneer, layer, stain, dye, tincture, coating or paint of any color, and/or any type of cutout that is designed to fit the nail surface area or the surrounding tissue which distinguishes the nail surface from the surrounding tissue; or

any type of stencil that is designed to fit the nail surface area or the surrounding tissue which distinguishes the nail surface from the surrounding tissue.

Claim 8(original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of digitizing further comprises:

utilizing a computer device to capture numerical and/or color and/or spatial data of a nail surface and/or the surrounding tissue;

or utilizing a laser device to capture numerical and/or color and/or spatial data of a nail surface and/or the surrounding tissue;

or utilizing a mechanical device to capture numerical and/or color and/or spatial data of a nail surface and/or the surrounding tissue;

or utilizing reflected light or an optic device to capture numerical and/or color and/or spatial data of a nail surface and/or the surrounding tissue.

Where, numerical data includes any representation of the nail surface by numbers or scientific notation;

and color data includes any representation of the nail surface by common computer color recognition methods including RGB (Red, Blue, Green) and/or CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black) and/or gray scale;

and spatial data includes any representation of the nail surface by amplitude, breadth, width, length or expanse; further comprising any geometrical coordinate representation similar to an XYZ coordinate system where the data may reflect points and/or vectors and/or vertices to create any type of geometrical lines and/or shape(s).

Claims 9-16 (cancelled)